House File 314 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 314
BY KAJTAZOVIC and KELLEY

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act creating a school solar generation revolving loan and
- 2 grant program and fund within the Iowa energy center to fund
- 3 solar generation projects and making an appropriation.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 266.39C, Code 2013, is amended by adding
- 2 the following new subsection:
- 3 NEW SUBSECTION. 7. The Iowa energy center shall establish
- 4 and administer the school solar generation revolving loan and
- 5 grant program pursuant to section 473.21.
- 6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 473.21 School solar generation
- 7 revolving loan and grant program.
- The Iowa energy center created under section 266.39C
- 9 shall establish and administer a school solar generation
- 10 revolving loan and grant program to encourage solar generation
- 11 projects at school districts and Iowa community colleges
- 12 within the state. For purposes of this section, "solar
- 13 generation project" means the purchase and installation
- 14 at a school district or Iowa community college of a solar
- 15 photovoltaic system or systems that in the aggregate will
- 16 produce electricity which has a nameplate generating capacity
- 17 not in excess of one hundred kilowatts.
- 18 2. a. A school solar generation revolving loan and grant
- 19 fund is created in the office of the treasurer of state to be
- 20 administered by the Iowa energy center.
- 21 b. The fund shall consist of any moneys appropriated
- 22 or otherwise directed to the fund. Section 8.33 shall not
- 23 apply to moneys in the fund. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,
- 24 subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall
- 25 be credited to the fund.
- 26 c. Moneys in the fund shall be used to provide grants
- 27 and loans to fund solar generation projects as provided in
- 28 subsection 3.
- 29 3. Any school district or Iowa community college in this
- 30 state may apply to the Iowa energy center to receive a grant
- 31 and loan for a solar generation project, which grant and loan
- 32 shall be available as follows:
- 33 a. A school district or Iowa community college may receive a
- 34 grant for an amount not to exceed forty percent of the purchase
- 35 and installation costs associated with that part of the solar

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- 1 generation project that will produce electricity which has a
- 2 nameplate generating capacity of ten kilowatts or less.
- 3 b. (1) A school district or Iowa community college may
- 4 receive a loan for an amount not to exceed forty percent of the
- 5 remaining purchase and installation costs associated with the
- 6 solar generation project that were not used to calculate the
- 7 grant pursuant to paragraph "a".
- 8 (2) Each loan under this paragraph "b" shall be for a
- 9 period not to exceed twenty years, shall bear no interest,
- 10 and shall be repayable to the fund created under this section
- 11 in installments as determined by the Iowa energy center.
- 12 The interest rate upon delinquent payments shall accelerate
- 13 immediately to the current legal usury limit.
- 14 (3) Any loan made pursuant to this program shall immediately
- 15 become due for payment upon sale of the solar photovoltaic
- 16 system for which the loan was made.
- 17 Sec. 3. SCHOOL SOLAR GENERATION REVOLVING LOAN AND GRANT
- 18 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION.
- 19 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state
- 20 to the school solar generation revolving loan and grant fund
- 21 in section 473.21 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013,
- 22 the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be
- 23 used for the purposes designated:
- 24 For providing grants and loans to fund solar generation
- 25 projects as provided in section 473.21:
- 26 \$ 5,000,000
- 27 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated pursuant
- 28 to this section shall not revert but shall remain available
- 29 to the school solar generation revolving loan and grant fund
- 30 for the purposes designated until expended. Notwithstanding
- 31 section 12C.7, subsection 2, earnings or interest on moneys
- 32 appropriated pursuant to this section shall be credited to the
- 33 school solar generation revolving loan and grant fund and used
- 34 for the purposes designated until expended.
- 35 EXPLANATION

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1 This bill establishes a school solar generation revolving 2 loan and grant program within the Iowa energy center, creates 3 a corresponding fund, and makes a \$5 million appropriation to 4 the fund. Moneys in the fund will be used to provide loans 5 and grants to school districts and Iowa community colleges 6 to invest in solar generation projects. "Solar generation 7 project" is defined as the purchase and installation of a solar 8 photovoltaic system or systems that in the aggregate will 9 produce electricity which has a nameplate generating capacity 10 not in excess of 100 kilowatts. School districts or Iowa community colleges may apply to the 11 12 Iowa energy center to receive a grant and loan for the purchase 13 and installation costs of a solar generation project. A grant not to exceed 40 percent of the purchase and 14 15 installation costs may be provided for that part of a solar 16 generation project that will produce electricity which has a 17 nameplate generating capacity of up to 10 kilowatts. 18 solar generation project will produce electricity which has a 19 nameplate generating capacity of greater than 10 kilowatts, 20 a school district or Iowa community college may receive the 21 grant listed above and a loan not to exceed 40 percent of the 22 remaining purchase and installation costs that are in excess of 23 those established for the grant. 24 Each loan provided in the bill shall be for a period not 25 to exceed 20 years, shall bear no interest, and shall be 26 repayable to the fund in installments determined by the Iowa 27 energy center. The interest rate upon delinquent payments 28 shall accelerate immediately to the current legal usury limit.

29 Loans shall become due immediately upon the sale of the solar

30 photovoltaic system for which the loan was made.